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CHINA.

Plague at Hongkong January 1 to September 1, 1900.

MANILA, P. I., *September 1, 1900.*

SIR: I have the honor to submit for your information some data relative to the present plague epidemic in Hongkong that is now fast subsiding.

During the first three months of the year the situation was very encouraging, and there were some indications that the city would escape a severe epidemic. However, the disease commenced to markedly increase during the month of April, the epidemic continuing to spread during May, and reached its height in June.

A study of the weekly statistics submitted shows that the number of cases diminished considerably toward the end of July and during August, and at the date of writing are comparatively few.

The course of this epidemic has been similar to the preceding ones, the number of cases slowly and gradually increasing for a limited period, then assuming graver proportions when the rains commenced, and rapidly declining on the advent of the fall season.

The statistics below give the information pertinent to this subject.

Return showing the number of cases of bubonic plague reported as occurring in Hongkong from January 1, 1900, to September 1, 1900.

Week ended.	Cases.	Deaths.	Week ended.	Cases.	Deaths.
1900.			1900.		
January 4	1	1	May 12	59	56
January 13	2	2	May 19	96	86
January 20	1	1	May 26	89	82
January 27	1	1	June 2	81	75
February 3	5	3	June 9	70	64
February 10	2	3	June 16	74	64
February 17	2	1	June 23	63	57
February 24	0	1	June 30	99	98
March 3	2	2	July 7	65	68
March 10	0	0	July 14	57	58
March 17	0	0	July 21	43	44
March 24	0	0	July 28	33	34
March 31	4	4	August 4	22	22
April 7	6	6	August 11	29	28
April 14	20	19	August 18	26	26
April 21	21	16	August 25	9	9
April 28	33	28			
May 5	34	32	Total	1,049	991

Respectfully,

J. C. PERRY,
Passed Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

The SURGEON-GENERAL,
U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.

COLOMBIA.

Report from Bocas del Toro—Fruit port.

BOCAS DEL TORO, COLOMBIA, *September 30, 1900.*

SIR: I have the honor to report that for the week ended September 29, 1900, the following-named ships were inspected, clearing for ports in the United States; September 25, steamship *Ethelwold*, British; Henshaw, master; crew, 23; no passengers; for Baltimore, Md. September 27, schooner *Royalist*, British; Whitney, master; crew, 6; no

passengers; for Mobile, Ala., via San Andrews, Colombia. September 29, steamship *Dudley*, Norwegian; Andersen, master; crew, 18; no passengers; for Mobile, Ala.

There have been 3 deaths in the town of Bocas del Toro, and 1 death at "Old Bank," one of the adjacent cays, about 2 miles from Bocas—an adult Chinese, male, from remittent fever; an adult, white male, foreigner, from remittent fever, complicated with pneumonia; a female native, adult, from heart disease; and the fourth death, the one at "Old Bank," an adult, native, male, from wounds on the head.

The general health of this port and the surrounding cays continues good. There is no suspicion as to the existence of any contagious or infectious disease.

Respectfully, WM. H. CARSON,
Acting Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

The SURGEON-GENERAL,
U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.

COSTA RICA.

Reports from Port Limon—Fruit port.

PORT LIMON, COSTA RICA, *September 23, 1900.*

SIR: I have the honor to submit report for week ended September 22. The following vessels have cleared from this port:

Date.	Vessel.	Master.	No. of crew.	Destination.	Number of passengers.	Number pieces baggage disinfected.
Sept. 20	Steamship Beverly	Israel	36	New Orleans, La	0	0
Sept. 22	Steamship Holstein	Voss	21	do	0	0

The sanitary conditions of this port and adjacent country are good, 6 deaths during the week as follows: September 16, a child 1 year and 7 months of age, from dentition; a child 7 months of age, from pneumonia; September 17, an adult 50 years of age, from carcinoma of rectum; September 18, a child 6 years of age, from remittent fever; a child 4 months, from intermittent fever, and a child 18 months, from diarrhea. This is an increase of 4 deaths over last week, though 5 were children.

Respectfully, J. GREY THOMAS,
Acting Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

The SURGEON-GENERAL,
U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.

PORT LIMON, COSTA RICA, *September 30, 1900.*

SIR: I have the honor to submit report for week ended September 29, 1900. The following vessels have cleared from this port:

Date.	Vessel.	Master.	Number of crew.	Destination.	Number of passengers.	Number of pieces baggage disinfected.
Sept. 27	Ss. Hispania	Frockberg	21	New Orleans, La	0	0
Sept. 23	Ss. Olympia	Seiders	40	Mobile, Ala	0	0
Sept. 29	Ss. Kitty	Montansen	18	do	0	0